



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CITY OF GREENSBORO**

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CITY RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR SMART GROWTH ACHIEVEMENT

GREENSBORO, NC (November 17, 2004) – Today, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Mike Leavitt recognized the City of Greensboro Department of Housing & Community Development's (HCD) Southside Neighborhood Plan as one of five winners in the 2004 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement. By receiving this nationally renowned award in the category of Built Projects, the Southside Neighborhood Plan joins a select group of city initiatives recognized for innovative approaches to development, which strengthens community identity and protects the environment.

Mayor Keith Holliday, Housing and Community Development Director Andy Scott, and Chief of Neighborhood Planning Sue Schwartz attended the award ceremony held today at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C on behalf of the City of Greensboro. The award selection took place through a multi-step process based on a city's replicability and effectiveness in advancing smart growth and the level of resident and stakeholder participation or partnerships. This highly competitive process drew more than 95 entries from around the country.

"The EPA is proud to recognize these exceptional communities that are creating healthy, attractive, and enduring places to live, work, and play," says EPA Administrator Michael Leavitt. "We salute these winners for their outstanding achievements and challenge others to follow their example in protecting the environment and improving the quality of life of our great nation," he adds. "We are using the principles of smart growth to protect and enhance our natural environment," says HCD Director Andy Scott. "By reusing previously developed land; providing more housing and transportation choices; preserving critical natural areas; and developing vibrant places throughout Greensboro, we are protecting our air, water, and land for future generations to enjoy," he adds.

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City Receives National Award for Innovative Community Development
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For more information about Southside Neighborhood Plan, contact Sue Schwartz at 336-373-2149 or sue.schwartz@greensboro-nc.gov.

For more information about the National Awards for Smart Growth Achievement, visit the EPA web site at www.epa.gov or contact Tim Torma at 202-566-2864 or torma.tim@epa.gov.

The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to build an increased quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment where inclusion, diversity, and trust are valued. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2700 employees who maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City of Greensboro is governed by a council-manager form of government where a mayor and eight council members act as the legislative body. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at www.greensboro-nc.gov.

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